

Meteor

Heraut

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Quick Read

Benelux

October Fuel Prices

Two hurricanes within weeks of each other have placed major stress on the petroleum industry as supply lines and sources were crippled.

Because of these extraordinary events, OCONUS Army & Air Force Exchange Service gas stations will use the four week Department of Energy (DoE) average from the weeks prior to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to establish October pump prices. As a result, the October '05 sell prices reflect the following average changes per gallon, by grade:

Belgium (200-liter card):

Grade 95 - \$152.36

Grade 98 - \$159.76

Diesel - \$156.06

Netherlands:

Super Unleaded - \$2.869

Super Plus Unleaded - \$3.115

Diesel - \$2.835

Germany:

Unleaded - \$2.715

Super Unleaded - 2.808

Super Plus Unleaded - 2.906

Diesel - 2.718

United Kingdom:

Super Unleaded - \$2.754

Diesel - \$2.664

Teambuilding

Military 101 Course

American Forces Teambuilding will sponsor a course on Military 101 on Oct. 11 from 9 a.m. to noon on the 2nd floor of building 318 (SHAPE) in the Community Conference Room..

The course is designed for those new to the military or others seeking a refresher course on acronyms, benefits and community resources.

American Forces Teambuilding will sponsor a "brown bag lunch" management course on communication from Noon to 1 p.m. Oct. 26. The course will discuss different styles of communicating, reviewing examples and skill improvement.

Advance Registration is required. Call DSN 423-5425 / Commercial: 065-44-5425.

Strategic 'Bridge too Far' yields USAG Benelux staff lessons

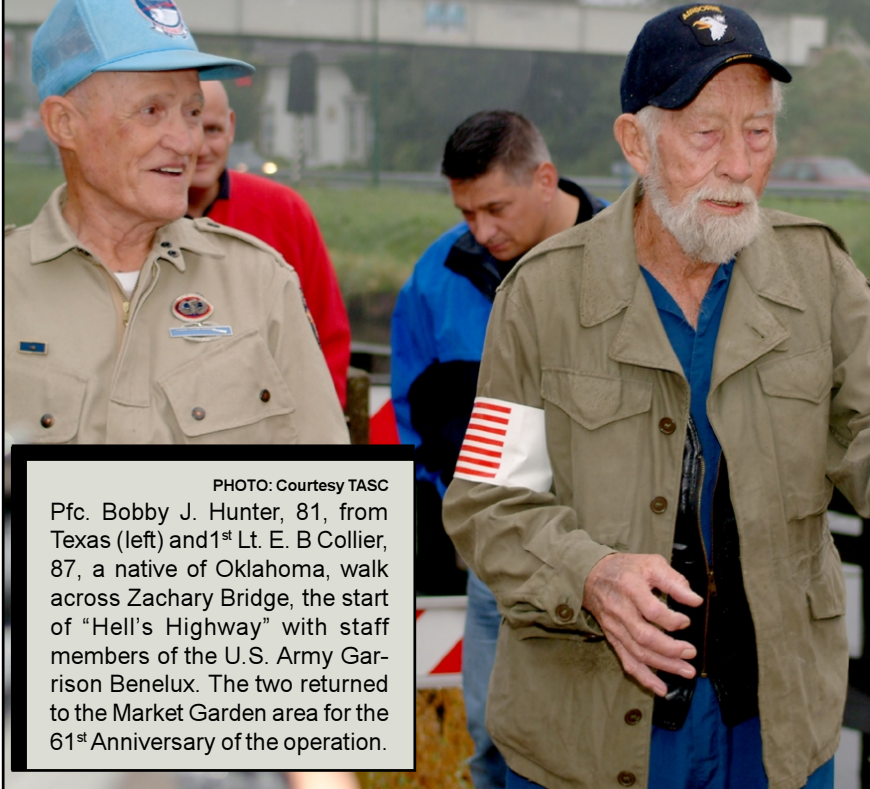


PHOTO: Courtesy TASC

Pfc. Bobby J. Hunter, 81, from Texas (left) and 1st Lt. E. B. Collier, 87, a native of Oklahoma, walk across Zachary Bridge, the start of "Hell's Highway" with staff members of the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux. The two returned to the Market Garden area for the 61st Anniversary of the operation.

By J.D. Hardesty

Parachuting into the thick blaze of battle to join with fellow British forces and glider pilots who stealthily entered the Market Garden battlefield charging relentlessly forward to save one bridge - the last bridge across the Maas-Waal Canal - that could feed allied forces strategic logistics for victory provided U.S. Army Garrison staff with an unparalleled opportunity recently as the command combined a staff meeting with teambuilding and a battlefield walk.

The strategic combination anthems the Army's challenge of doing more with less.

A hindsight look into the British 1st Airborne Corps operation shows a total breakdown in communication capabilities between headquarters staff, British combat troops and allied forces

See Lessons, Page 4

AUSA honors Benelux duo

Sullivan: "The essence of America is you!"

By J.D. Hardesty

HEIDELBERG, Germany - Two U.S. Army Garrison Benelux employees were honored by the Association of the U.S. Army - Europe.

Myrna Medina was named 80th Area Support Group's Civilian Employee of the Year and Melissa Broadwater was named Volunteer of the Year at the organizations annual banquet Sept. 26 highlighting winners from area support groups throughout Europe.

"Their story is an American story that is under told," said the banquet's guest speaker, former Army Chief of Staff, retired Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan. "This (the Army) is a family business where spouses shoulder the heavy load of taking care of the homefront, many working in civilian jobs or volunteering for the U.S. Army and they are devoted to the country supporting those who wear the uniform."

Sullivan explained that the civilian employees, Soldiers, their families and volunteers serve "for something larger than yourself," he said. "You do it for your country and for those allied countries here in attendance."

After a career of 36 years, Sullivan said he would still raise his right hand to reenlist today. "If there is a recruiter in the



PHOTO: J.D. Hardesty

Myrna Medina, from U.S. Army Garrison Benelux's resource management office was named 80th Area Support Group's (redesignated U.S. Army Garrison Benelux Oct. 1) Civilian Employee of the Year and Melissa Broadwater from U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen was named Volunteer of the Year at the Association of the U.S. Army-Europe's annual banquet held here during the Land Combat Expo 2005 Sept. 26.

house, sign me up," he told the crowd.

Turning to a more serious note, he explained he came to the banquet to talk about "you" he said, pointing to those in uniform in the audience and those who support those who wear the uniform.

"Maintain the essence of the Army through change," he said. "What is the essence of the Army? It's Normandy, Gettysburg, Chancellorsville - the essence is looking east from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, the essence of the Army is you! The essence of America is you!"

Medina said she was surprised and honored to receive the

See AUSA-Europe, Page 3



Col. Dean A. Nowowiejski
USAG Benelux Commander

This edition is about change. The 80th Area Support Group will furl its colors next week at a ceremony with the Installation Management Agency-Europe in Heidelberg, Germany, and will officially become the United States Army Garrison Benelux.

Nowowiejski Notes

Our new name captures the transition to a standard garrison organization along with the rest of the installations in the Army, and our move toward common levels of support across the Army's Installation Management Agency.

Benelux denotes our area operation in Belgium, The Netherlands, and Luxembourg. The USAG Benelux operates the garrisons for three joint American communities in support of three principal NATO Headquarters: USAG Brussels for NATO HQ, USAG Schinnen for JFC Brunssum, and the Chievres Garrison for SHAPE, along with Army base operations support for northern Germany, the United Kingdom, and northern France.

As we make this transition from 80th Area Support Group to USAG Benelux, it is worth noting that as we fold the

colors of the 80th ASG in Heidelberg, we will also formally case the Army battle streamers of the 80th ASG.

This unit earned two streamers in World War II, and five for campaigns in Vietnam. So our garrisons will begin to build a new heritage from the beginning.

As we make this transition, we remember and honor the veterans who served in the campaigns of the 80th ASG.

These veterans share a common history of sacrifice with the Belgian 5th and 6th Fusilier Regiments who fought with the American First and Seventh Armies in the Battle of the Bulge during World War II.

In a way, the casing of the battle streamers for the 80th ASG marks an end point to our honoring of all World War II veterans during the 60th Anniversary celebrations last year.

This time is one to remember the friendship we have with our host nations and the communities that you live in across Belgium and The Netherlands.

Without our host nation employees and community leaders of the cities and towns in which we live, our quality of life would suffer greatly. We recognize and thank them for their work in our garrisons, their assistance with force protection, law enforcement, and housing.

Our host nations are friendly to Americans and remain important partners in NATO. We take this opportunity to thank them again.

So say goodbye to the 80th ASG, NSA, and the 254th BSB. From this reading on, please join me in supporting the USAG Benelux, USAG Brussels, and USAG Schinnen. The quality of support and dedication to excellence and improvement remain the same. The names have definitely changed. Let's build that heritage of the future together.

Columbus Day Holiday Weekend Safety

Bell Sends #36-05
14 September 2005

1. Fall is a great time in Europe. USAREUR will recognize the Columbus Day Federal holiday with a 4-day weekend 7 through 10 October. Many of our Soldiers are either deployed or are preparing to deploy during this period. We wish them all continued Godspeed in their service to their Nation. For those who will not be deployed, this period provides an opportunity for Soldiers, civilians, and their families to share some much-deserved time off for rest and relaxation, sightseeing, or simply spending time together.

2. Whatever your plans may be for the long holiday weekend, I ask that you keep safety at the forefront of your actions. This is not the time to let down your guard. The following areas require everyone's attention and are vital to your safety and our composite risk management process:

☐ **Shorter Days.** As fall begins, the hours of daylight are becoming shorter. It is important to take this into consideration when planning trips and family outings. Now is a good time to conduct a preventive-maintenance check on your privately owned vehicle. Ensure that your vehicle lighting system is in good working order and keep a functional emergency flashlight readily available in the vehicle. Plan to travel during daylight hours to avoid the hazards associated with nighttime driving. Stock up on necessary items for get-togethers or cookouts to avoid last-minute shopping trips after dark.

☐ **Limited Visibility.** Along with shorter days are the risks associated with limited visibility. Dimly lit and winding secondary roads in Europe make it harder for drivers to see and react to pedestrians and bicycle riders in the road. If you walk or ride your bicycle after dark, be sure to wear appropriate reflective clothing to alert others of your presence and increase the time for drivers to react. Also be sure that your bicycle lights—both front and rear—are in good working order. New laws are being implemented throughout Europe to make reflective clothing mandatory for certain activities. Be smart and take steps now to keep you and your family members safe.

☐ **Harvest Season.** Fall is one of the busiest times for farming communities throughout Europe. You can expect a greater number of slow-moving farm vehicles operating on public highways at this time. Take this into consideration when planning driving times and—above all—be patient. Anticipate delays. Give farm vehicles the same courtesy you would expect if you were operating a slow-moving military vehicle on a public road. Before attempting to pass any vehicle, ask yourself if it is really necessary. Do not put yourself, your loved ones, or others at risk.

☐ **Local Fests.** Participating in local festivals is a distinct part of the European experience. Festivals



Gen. B. B. Bell

offer a great opportunity to learn about local customs, sample unique foods, and meet new friends. If you decide to attend a fest and drink alcoholic beverages, you must do this in moderation. Also, you simply cannot operate a motor vehicle if you have been drinking—Don't do it! Do not allow alcohol to affect your judgment or behavior; never forget that you represent our Nation and the Army in Europe. Plan your trip, employ a designated driver, and make sure you have a safe way to get home. Never risk your life or the lives of others by drinking

and driving.

3. Soldiers, civilians, and family members are our Army's most valuable resource. I want you to take personal responsibility for your actions over the holiday weekend. I expect our first-line leaders to engage their Soldiers with "Under the Oak Tree Counseling" before they depart for the weekend. Commanders must practice and enforce composite risk management within their organizations. In being safe over the holiday weekend, everyone can return to work both mentally and physically prepared to continue to execute with excellence Any Mission, Anywhere!

B.B. BELL
General, US Army
Commanding

Cost of Living Allowance, 2005 European Surveys

Bell Sends # 38-5
27 September 2005

1. In May of this year I asked for your help in ensuring maximum participation in the 2005 Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) Survey process. In Bell Sends 22-05, I explained the importance of surveys in re-baselining the COLA index, which had, over many years, become less representative of our chang-

ing environment. The survey results are in, and they indicate adjustments are required to the COLA index. These adjustments will take effect on 1 January 2006. Some communities will see an increase in their COLA rates, and others will see a decrease. Across the board, however, I believe we achieved our goal of re-baselining the indexes through sound and comprehensive surveys. The purpose of this message is to ex-

plain what COLA is and how the surveys play a part in making sure our Servicemembers receive the appropriate amount of COLA.

2. COLA is a nontaxable Department of Defense allowance that compensates our Servicemembers for differences between the cost of living here at their location in

Europe and in the United States. Several factors determine the rate for

COLA, including the euro exchange rate, Servicemember and family member shopping patterns, goods and services available on local military installations, and prices of items throughout our communities.

☐ Surveys are the regulatory tools used to determine shopping patterns and prices in communities, and to ensure COLA is set at levels authorized

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AUSA-Europe, from Page 1

award because "there are so many hard working people in USAG Benelux.

"Usually those who work in resource management don't have that much visibility but we do a lot of work behind the scenes that support the commander's priorities and mission," the mother of three said after receiving the award. "I work with very competent people whose contributions and dedication during a very challenging year have garnered a successful year-end, closeout for the resource management team."

Medina is married to Rick Medina, an Army retiree who works for U.S. Army NATO.

Broadwater, the 80th ASG's Volunteer of the Year started volunteering

with youth sports because Dustin, 15, and Brenda, 13, "play about every sport offered in the Schinnen community.

Dustin plays several sports, but Brenda plays four different team events - football, baseball, soccer and basketball - with football being her favorite.

"It's an honor to be named volunteer of the year," she said. "But, I just do what I do.... I love to cook and do things with my children so I was just staying busy."

Broadwater's idea of staying busy is helping raise funds for "Kids in Kabul" by working at a cookout for the program.

"I was shocked to win just for the Schinnen area," she said, "Let alone

AUSA.

Married to Air Force Tech. Sgt. Mahlon Broadwater, Melissa cooks a Thanksgiving dinner for unaccompanied Soldiers in the AFNorth Battalion area. She also helps support the Army element by cooking hams and turkeys for unit holiday parties.

She recently accepted a non-appropriated fund position working in the Schinnen community.

It is this type of dedication and service Sullivan highlighted in his speech to the banquet guests when he explained "the essence and strength of the Army, and the United States of America is you!"

He described the commitment of those who step up and serve today,

those helping the victims from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, those who raised their right hands and go into harm's way, and those civilians and volunteers supporting the troops as "you are always on my mind."

He spoke for those in uniform fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, answering the nation's call as if they would say, "I am giving you all I have for my country. It is all I have left. You need to know there are people out there who love you and respect you for what you do, so I give you all I have."

For those who shoulder the load, those service members, civilian workers and family members who support those troops, he said, "The essence of America is you."

BELL, from Page 2

by law. The survey results establish the index that determine how much COLA is paid to Servicemembers living in a particular community. Through your leadership and participation, 12,168 people responded to the online survey, reporting what they buy and where they buy it. This represents a highly credible response. Appointed representatives from the designated community then collected prices at locations from the survey to establish price levels in each community. These price levels are then compared against CONUS price levels of similar goods and services for military families. The COLA compensates Servicemembers for the difference in these price levels.

□ Servicemembers can look up their COLA rate at <https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/>

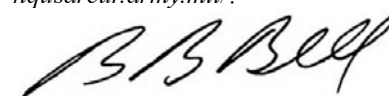
[ocform.html](https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/). A decrease in COLA indicates that the gap between CONUS and OCONUS prices for Servicemembers has narrowed. This does not necessarily mean that prices in the European community have declined, as it could be a function of increasing prices in the United States. It could also mean that more goods and services are available through AAFES or other concessionaires on your installation, instead of your having to obtain the goods / services off post. More information about COLA and the changes can be found at https://secureapp2.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem. Clicking on *Overseas COLA*, and again on *COLA INDEXES* will lead to the published index rates.

3. The euro exchange rate, which also affects COLA, is applied to the portion of shopping conducted off post. While the shopping patterns are

surveyed at least every three years and price levels must be reviewed annually, the euro exchange rate can affect your COLA authorization any time. This is why we see continuous and periodic changes to our COLA throughout the year.

4. We have worked hard to execute this COLA survey process professionally and properly. As noted above, some COLA rates will decrease and some will increase. I want everyone to know that we have judiciously followed our Federal rules and regulations to ensure our processes and results are fair, accurate, and accountable to audit. We owe it to you and to all American taxpayers to follow prescribed rules, regulations, and processes pretty much to the letter in determining COLA rates. I recommend your efforts to ensure this allowance

is set at the right rates to accurately reflect our environment today. We will continue to conduct surveys required by regulation and to implement COLA adjustments when needed. Leaders must continue to emphasize the importance of these surveys throughout their organizations. Supporting these surveys is the only way to ensure that our Servicemembers continue to receive the appropriate COLA they are authorized and deserve. Our POC for COLA surveys and actions in Europe is the 266th Finance Command homepage at <http://266fincom1.hqusareur.army.mil/>.



B.B. BELL
General, US Army
Commanding



Meteor-Heraut Deadline and Publication Dates

Copy is due at noon

Deadline	Print Date	Deadline	Print Date	Deadline	Print Date	Deadline	Print Date
Oct. 11	Oct. 21	Nov. 7	Nov. 18	Dec. 6	Dec. 16	Jan. 16	Jan. 27
Oct. 24	Nov. 4	Nov. 21	Dec. 2	Jan. 3	Jan. 13	Jan. 20	Feb. 10

About the Meteor-Heraut

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Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color,

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Policy

• We encourage letters to the editor, but they must be signed. We will consider withholding the name of the author upon request. Letters regarding an issue should contribute to informational interest.

• We reserve the right to edit all material for style, to fit available space, to resolve libel, safety or force protection issues and to correct grammar.

• Articles in plain text and separate photographic files may be submitted but publication depends upon the judgment of the editor. All submissions should be in electronic form as plain text. We cannot process information in documents such as PowerPoint, Excel or Acrobat.

• Event announcements must use civilian dates and times. Spell out acronyms and include a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. We cannot reproduce prepared flyers in the *Meteor-Heraut*.

Advertising

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- Neither the *Meteor-Heraut* staff nor other public affairs personnel can accept advertising requests.
- The appearance of advertising, including inserts, does not constitute endorsement of the products or services offered.
- Any gambling or lottery requiring payment for chance cannot be advertised as stated in 18 U.S.C. 1302.
- Advertising requests may be directed to AdvantiPro GmbH, at 49 631 30 335599.

Deadline

Copy and photographs are due by noon 11 calendar days before publication date.

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Lessons, from Page 1

- lessons the staff can apply today, whether serving in the Benelux or in support of Operations Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom.

"Command and control communications broke down, the

Benelux staff face while providing support to NATO elements in six different countries.

"We need good communications across the Benelux," he said. "We have good



PHOTO: J.D. Hardesty

Lt. Col. John Davidson, provost marshal for the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux was one of several presenters to discuss the Market Garden battlefield situation and lessons inherently learned during the battlefield walk that also included teambuilding and a staff meeting.

reconnaissance for the operation wasn't good and good troops died," said Col. Dean A. Nowowiejski, commander of the USAG Benelux.

According to history, only 700 of the more than 11,000 British troops made it to the bridge in the fierce fighting battle to keep the route open.

"There were pockets of forces spread out, isolated, battling enemy forces in the blind not knowing what their fellow soldiers were doing or where they were fighting," he said. "Without good communication and a well coordinated effort the struggle to gain any ground was disastrous."

Nowowiejski paralleled these elements of Market Garden to the challenges the

people working hard, but if they don't understand the commander's intent, their efforts are wasted."

He talked about sharing information across staff channels, not only throughout directorates but across Chièvres, Brussels and Schinnen garrisons.

"Our operations are spread organizationally across three garrisons," he said. "Schinnen faces similar problems as Brussels, which faces similar problems as Chièvres. We face these problems everyday in what we do. Cross communication across the command provides the lessons learned to help eliminate problem duplicity."

Additional lessons during

the battlefield walk were supplied by the veterans returning for the 61st Anniversary of the campaign.

1st Lt. E.B. Collier, a native of Oklahoma and Pfc. Bobby J. Hunter, Texas returned to the Market Garden area for the 61st anniversary of the operation. Both served with D Company, 2nd Bn, 501st PIR, 101st Airborne Division.

Collier looks upon first return to the battlefield where so many of America's greatest generation gave lost their lives in the name of freedom in a positive experience.

"It has helped me through the emotions and pain I endured and still painfully remember," he said. "All this time, I didn't want to think or talk about it."

Upon his return, he said, "It's great to be back. I felt so sorry for the Dutch people. The Germans had taken everything. I'm glad they have recovered."

Hunter, a radio operator during the war has returned to The Netherlands several times.

"Last year, I brought my family with me," he said. "I love it here, I loved it the first time. The people were poor then, they're doing great now."

Hunter really appreciated the role of the Dutch Resistance.

"The Dutch resistance did so much," he said. "They left for a few hours and came back with all sorts of information. You wonder how they didn't get shot."

Speaking of today's Soldiers fighting in support of freedom, Hunter said, "They're doing just what we did. They defend our country and they're far away from home too."

Both Collier and Hunter

hope to visit again, their health permitting.

The American's weren't the only ones returning to the battlefield after facing enemy fire more than 60 years ago, two British brothers visited Arnhem, The Netherlands and



Thomas Davidson

it's strategically famous bridges.

Thomas Davidson, a British glider pilot who had already fought in North Africa and Sicily campaigns, was part of the Market Garden operation and one of four brothers who fought to repel German aggression during World War II.

Davidson, 86, and his 84-year-old brother Maxwell, a British Royal Navy parachutist and forward observer attached to the 1st Infantry Division, returned the Arnhem, The Netherlands with several other veterans for a memorial service to show honor and respect for their fallen comrades who died in the battle.

"While the village has been built back strong, the river hasn't changed," Thomas explained in his thick Scottish accent, when asked of his experiences during September of 1944. "It's like coming home and everyone is much, much older."

Thomas explained that the glider pilots lost more men dur-

ing this operation than in Sicily and North Africa.

"We should have landed on the other side of the river," he explained to Nowowiejski when told of the staff battlefield walk. "I guess you can study our blunder."

Thomas likes what he sees today on the streets of the Dutch city.

"The village was blown apart and the people were suffering back then, but after 60 years it is nice to see the Dutch people have rebuilt splendidly, he said. "It makes all of the sacrifices and lives lost seem worth it to see this village thrive."

Maxwell, who wasn't in the battle for the bridges, explained that Thomas and his fellow soldiers, "had to fight through the town, street by street and house by house."

Of the allied brethren fighting with his brother, Maxwell



Maxwell Davidson

said, "The Yanks took three bridges to bring in the tanks from Nijmegen (The Netherlands) to take this bridge. "Thank goodness for the Yanks."

Maxwell explained that after taking the bridge and repulsing enemy resistance, "The Yanks evacuated my brother over the bridge to get medical treatment for his wounds."

"We always receive a good welcome from the Dutch," Maxwell said. "Back then, they suffered enormously."

Trips and Tours

Thermae 2000 - Oct. 15. A day spa in the Netherlands! Flush the stress out of your body and find relaxation in the various pools or with massage and beauty treatments. Price: •45.

Belgium Beer & Chocolate - Oct. 22. Life doesn't get much better! Experience some of the best Belgium has to offer - Beer, Chocolate, and an encore stop for Lace. Price: •39 Adults, •29 Children 0-2.

Paintball - Oct. 23. Take your frustration out on your friends the fun way! Join us for an afternoon as we travel to a local paintball area to splatter away. Special Chièvres pickup and drop off! Price: •39 - No children under 12.

Haunted Paris - Oct. 29. We will give you ghostly information; however, once we arrive in Paris, the day is yours to spend as you wish. Price: •25.

Salzburg, Vienna, Budapest & Bavaria - All Saint's Recess - Oct. 29-Nov. 4. Join us for this seven-day, six-night experience where our first stop in Salzburg will indeed tell us if the "Hills are alive with the sound of music." Price: •915 Single, •745/person in twin, double, or triple, •609 child 3-12*, •225 child 0-2*, *sharing room with two fully paid guests.

For more information visit SHAPE Trips and Tours at Bldg. 307 or call DSN 423-3884 or Commercial 065 44 3884.

USAG Benelux Military Idol

PHOTO: J.D. Hardesty

Spec. Davin Lanette Eubanks, SHAPE Healthcare Facility, and a native of Oregon, won \$500 and a trip to Fort Gordon, Ga., to compete in the national Military Idol contest. Her unit will also receive a \$500 award.



Chièvres Garrison

SHAPE/Chièvres Local Calendar

Chièvres Fitness Center - Every Tuesday and Friday W.O.W. - Women on Weights from 9.30-10.30 a.m., every Tuesday and Thursday YOGA from 10.30-11.30 a.m., and every Monday and Wednesday at 9.30 a.m. Turbo Kick Group Fitness Class.

Community Activity Center - Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10.30-11.30 a.m. the Baby Buggy Brigade.

Salsa Dancing Lessons - have changed from Monday/Wednesday to Tuesday/Thursday from 6-7 p.m. for intermediate and from 7.15-8.15 p.m. for beginners at the SHAPE IC Club.

Transition Assistance Program - Oct. 11-14 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Geilenkirchen Family Support Center. Open to all military members, their spouses, and civilian members contemplating leaving government service. The TAP includes a Pre-separation briefing and a Career Transition Workshop. DSN 423-4904.

AFTB-Course - Military 101, Oct. 11 from 9 a.m.-Noon. ACS

Military Retiree Appreciation Day



A n Army Air Force Exchange System patron visits the retiree display at the post exchange Sept. 17, as the Association of Retired Members of the Armed Forces teamed with AAFES and the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux to honor those past service members, many of who "still serve" in other positions supporting the military, families and employees.



PHOTO: J.D. Hardesty

Breastfeeding Support Group - Oct. 18 from 10-11 a.m. at the SHAPE Health Clinic, WIC overseas office. Sign up at DSN 423-5971.

Education Fair - Oct. 26-28 at the Chièvres PX between 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Meet with representatives from Central Texas College, University of Maryland, University of Oklahoma, University of Phoenix, the Air Force, and SHAPE Education Center counselors. For info, call 065-44-3466, DSN 423-3466 or email shape.education@benelux.army.mil.

French Headstart - Free French Headstart class offered Oct. 11-22 at the SHAPE Education Center. Register or email shape.education@benelux.army.mil for more information.

eArmyUProgram - An online PReP assessment test to evaluate technology skills, study habits and time management skills is available free to Army personnel at the SHAPE Education Center. Call 065-44-3466, DSN 423-3466.

Conference Room, Bldg. 318, SHAPE. DSN 423-5425.

Other American Forces Team Building courses include:

▣ Nov. 3, 4-7 p.m. - Improving Your Job Skills

▣ Nov. 14, 5-8 p.m. - Training and Group Dynamics

▣ Nov. 15, 16, 9 a.m. -4 p.m. - Brussels- Instructor Training

▣ Nov. 30, noon-1 p.m. - Working Lunch Series

USAG Newcomers Briefing - Oct. 12 from 8.30 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Hotel Le Maisières. Open to all service members (Army, Navy, Airforce), their spouses and civilians. Lunch included free of charge.

Cultural Adaptation Trip - visit

a warehouse and family brewery in Brussels on Oct. 15 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sign up with ACS at DSN 423-4332.

Annual PTSA - (Parent Teacher Student Association) Bazaar will be held on Oct. 15 and 16 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the SHAPE American School Cafeteria area.

What's in your credit report?

Northern Law Office

As of September 1, you are entitled to a free copy of your credit report. A recent amendment to the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) requires each of the nationwide credit bureaus to provide you with a free copy of your credit report, upon request, once every 12 months. The FCRA promotes the accuracy and privacy of information in the files of the credit bureaus - Equifax, Experian, and Trans Union.

The three nationwide credit bureaus have set up one central website, phone number and address through which you can order free report. To order, visit www.annualcreditreport.com, call 877-322-8228, or mail the request form to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281. If you request your report online, you should have access to it immediately. If ordered it by phone or mail, your credit report will be mailed within 15 days from receipt of the request.

You may order your reports from one,

two or all three credit bureaus at the same time. The law allows you to order one free copy from each credit bureau every 12 months. Some financial advisors say staggering your requests over a 12-month period may be a good way to keep an eye on the accuracy and completeness of the information in your reports.

To get your report, you will need to provide your name, address, Social Security number and date of birth. If you have moved within the last two years, you may have to provide your previous address. Each bureau may also ask you for some information that only you would know, like the amount of your monthly mortgage payment, to maintain the security of your file.

Inside your credit report is information on where you live, how you pay your bills, and whether you've been sued, arrested, or filed for bankruptcy. Credit bureaus sell information in your report to creditors, insurers, employers and other businesses that use it to

evaluate your applications for credit, insurance and employment.

You should review your credit report to make sure the information is accurate, complete, and up-to-date before you apply for a loan for a major purchase like a house or car, buy insurance, or apply for a job. Your credit report will affect whether you can get a loan and how much you will have to pay to borrow money. Additionally, regular review of your credit report also helps to guard against identity theft.

Under the FCRA, both the credit bureau and the information provider (e.g., the creditor) are responsible for correcting inaccurate or incomplete information in your report. To dispute an item on your credit report, send the credit bureau that provided the report a letter stating what information is inaccurate. The credit bureau must investigate the item in question unless they consider your dispute frivolous. It must also forward your dispute to the information provider. Once the information

provider receives notice of the dispute, it must investigate, review the relevant information and report back to the credit bureau. The credit bureau must give you the written results of the investigation and a free copy of your report if the dispute results in a change.

The website www.annualcreditreport.com is the only authorized source for your free annual credit report. No credit bureau or www.annualcreditreport.com will send you an email asking for your personal information. If you get an email or see a pop-up ad claiming it's from a credit bureau or www.annualcreditreport.com, do not reply or click on any link in the message - it's probably a scam. No credit bureau or www.annualcreditreport.com will ever contact you for your personal information.

For more information or for help disputing an item on your credit report, please contact the Northern Law Center at DSN: 423-4868 or CIV: (065) 44 4868.



USAG Brussels Tri-Mission News

Info Fair serves Tri-Mission Community



Kelly Jones (seated left) from the U.S. Embassy's Community Liaison and Terri Dempsey provide information to an attendee at the U.S. Army Garrison Brussels' Information Fair and Open House Sept. 16. The Joint event is sponsored by the Community Liaison Office (U.S. Embassy) and Army Community Services.

By Dorothy Nevins and Isabelle Gillet

The Tri-Mission community held its annual Information Fair and Open House Sept. 16 at U.S. Army Garrison Brussels.

The Information Fair and Open House is an annual joint event sponsored by the Community Liaison Office (U.S. Embassy) and Army Community Services here in Brussels is one of the most popular events in the Brussels community. This one-stop "shop" has something for everyone affiliated with the Tri-Mission community – adults and children alike.

Hundreds of garrison community members converged on the USAG facility and explored the "fair

grounds." They filled their bags with information, giveaways and other goodies from American and Belgian clubs and organizations, communes, churches, children's programs, tourism and travel offices, support groups, colleges, employers and community service groups.

Each year, more and more activities are represented to meet the participants on-site and with more than 100 exhibitors participating this year exceeding last year's record participation for the Information Fair.

Why is the annual Info Fair such a famous 'not to be missed' event?

According to those attending the event, it is because "it brings hands-on answers to almost all your questions about living in the Brussels area" – either as a newcomer or as an old-timer!

This year's event was expanded to accommodate the diverse working schedules of the Tri-mission community.

Usually held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., this year the event both extended and expanded to meet more of this unique community's needs by featuring an extra four-hour evening session from 4 to 8 p.m., as well as an all-day open house at USAG Brussels.

A guided tour of Morale Welfare and Recreation facilities and programs was provided to attendees and a live Armed Forces Network (AFN) radio broadcast.

Refreshments for the event were made available by the USAG Brussels Unit Funds, Family Readiness



PHOTOS: Courtesy USAG Brussels

The Tri-Mission Community's annual Information Fair and Open House, Sept. 16 at U.S. Army Garrison Brussels was overflowing with information booths from civic organizations and Army Community Services agencies.

Group and BOSS in the Three-Star Lounge.

To make it a fun-filled day for the kids while parents were gathering up information from the various agencies and organizations, a treasure hunt was organized for youth.

The treasure hunt itinerary started in the Building 4 lobby where children had to pick up a treasure hunt form. Their target was to find out the answers to a series of questions printed on color cards hanging on different office doors around the installation.

The efforts of our "junior detectives" had to be rewarded: 1st prize was a DVD player, 2nd prize - a \$50 gift certificate from AAFES, and 3rd prize was a \$15 coupon.

Once back from this discovery tour, young participants dropped off their completed forms in the blue box at the registration desk.

After the right answers were sorted out at ACS, U.S. Ambassador to Belgium Tom C. Korologos kindly agreed to personally do the drawing on Sept. 28.

First Prize/DVD player: Devin Nieusma (8 years old);

Second Prize/\$50.00 AAFES gift certificate: joint entry - Timothy and Jonathan Gilmour (6 & 8 years old);

Third Prize/\$15.00 AAFES gift certificate: Erin Nieusma (11 years old).

Organizers of this year's Information Fair and Open House wanted to thank all the children who took part in the treasure hunt.



Visitors swarmed the U.S. Army Garrison Brussels' Information Fair and Open House Sept. 16.

Military One Source translation services available

A new Military One Source translation service is available for those with documents that require translation by emailing: militaryonesource@ceridian.com

Military One Source (MOS) is an information & referral service designed to supplement the I and R Program of Brussels ACS that provides service in more than 150 foreign languages. Whether preparing for a new baby, dealing with relationship issues, getting out of debt, or buying a car, MOS can help. They provide a customized response. The free service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for all branches of service, Active Duty, National Guards, Reservists and family members.

USAG Brussels Tri-Mission News

USAG Brussels Local Calendar

Immunizations at NATO Health Clinic are available Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Toddler Playgroup - Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m.-noon at the USAG Brussels Performing Arts Center, Bldg. 4, ground floor. No sign up required.

Three-Star Lounge - Friday Right Arm Nights: first Friday of the month as of 5 p.m. **Sunday Football Nights:** every Sunday, 7 p.m. **Movie Nights** 7p.m. - Oct. 13, "Star Wars"; Oct. 20 - "Amityville Horror." Oct. 20 - Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament (no money play) at 7 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation Office: Day Trip Oct. 8 - Antwerp; Oct. 15 - Paris in the Fall.

Education EXPO at NATO Headquarters: Oct. 8 at 8.30 a.m. Education EXPO at the U.S. Embassy/Community Liason Office and Oct. 14 at 8.30 a.m. and Education EXPO at USAG Brussels on Oct. 21 at 8.30 a.m.

Scrap Booking Class on Oct. 11 from 6-9 p.m. at the Multi Crafts Center. DSN 368-9629.

Five Element Tai Chi School for Health and Energy, Oct. 11-Dec. 8 from 6.30-7.45 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center (across from Travel Agency). DSN 368-9753

Infant CPR and First Aid Class on Oct. 12 from 6-7.30 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall, Chapel Area, Bldg. 2. Advanced sign-up required. DSN 368-9784.

Pre-Natal Classes - The New Parent Education and Support Program provides ongoing pre-natal classes. Next series of classes is Oct. 11, 18, 25, and Nov. 1 from 6-8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, Chapel area, Bldg 2. Advance sign-

Community Information

Sponsorship Training - One-on-one sponsorship training is available through ACS by calling 02-717-9783 or trained on line by going on the S-Gate Sponsor Training Website at <https://www.sponsor-training.hqusaer.army.mil>.

Job Announcement Board - The ACS Employment Readiness Program maintains a list of job vacancies in the region. Vacancies are posted on the Job Announcement Board, located next to the ACS Employment Readiness manager's office, Rm. 326, USAG Brussels, Bldg. 4. Call 02 717-9698 for information.

National School Lunch Program - Offers free or reduced-price lunches to eligible families.

Refill Pharmacy - The SHAPE Healthcare Facility prescription refill service is available to TRICARE beneficiaries in the Brussels community at the Chièvres AAFES Base Exchange. Call refills in prior to noon Fridays, pickup service available 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays. Call 065-44-5981 for more info.

Family Subsistence Supplement Allowance - Call 02 717-9698 for program information.

Information and referral assistance is offered at the ACS Reception/In-take Desk is open mon.-Fri. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., USAG Brussels, Bldg. 4, top floor. Community event flyers, program tri-fold brochures, and copies of the Meteor-

Heraut newspaper, Benelux Link magazine and Connection magazine are available. Call 02 717-9783.

WEB Cams Available - ACS offers free web cams to keep in contact in case of deployments, temporary duty assignments, permanent change of station moves, hospitalization or other events separating Soldiers, and Department of Defence civilians from families. Appointment required, call 02 717-9783.

The Army Career & Alumni Program has been replaced with the *Transition Assistance Program*. TAP is open to all military members, their spouses, and civilians contemplating leaving government service. The program includes a pre-separation briefing and a career transition workshop. The pre-separation briefing, required by public law, reviews the benefits and services available to military service members and their families as they leave the service. This 4-day workshop will be held Tuesday, Oct. 11 from 1 to 4 p.m. and Wed.-Fri., Oct. 12-14 from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Geilenkirchen Family Support Center in Germany. No transportation will be provided. Call the Schinnen ACS at 0031 46 443-7269 or Brussels ACS at 02 717-9783.

Student Consultation -The first Friday each month representatives of the Education Center are available for consultation at the U. S. Embassy Brussels Community Liaison Office from 1200-1400 as service to Tri-Mission personnel.

up at ACS.

CYS Hispanic Heritage Celebration (Parents are invited to bring a potluck dish), Oct. 14 at 4 p.m. Child and Youth Services, Bldg. 3.

USAG Brussels Newcomers Briefing Part I - Introduction on Oct. 18 from 8.45 a.m.-2 p.m., Part II - Visit of a local hospital and information about local customs on Oct. 19 from 9.30 a.m. - noon and Part III - Visit of a local grocery store on Oct. 20 from 9.30-11 a.m. Meeting point is at

ACS, Bldg. 4, top floor conference room.

CHOCOLATE BOWL II - "International Youth Flag Football Tournament" will be held at Brussels American School fields Nov. 5, kick-off at 10 a.m. Several 12-15-year-old youth teams from Belgium, Holland, Germany, and France will converge on Brussels to vie for the chocolate statue! Call Youth Sports at 02 717-9649.

Education Day EXPO -The Education Expo is planned at three different loca-

tions in October with representatives from the University of Maryland, Central Texas College, University of Phoenix and University of Oklahoma available from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. to assist Tri-Mission personnel. Schedule is Oct. 8 at NATO Headquarters, Oct. 14 at U.S. Embassy/Community Liaison Office (Library) and Oct. 21 USAG-Brussels. University registration period is Oct. 10-21 and Term II starts Oct. 24.

8th Annual U.S. Army Garrison Brussels Autumn Festival will be held Oct. 28, 3:30-6 p.m. at Child and Youth Services, followed by a family dance at the Three-Star Lounge. This year's theme is the "Wild Wild West."

Schedule of event include:

1 p.m.: "Office Door Decoration Contest" judging in bldgs. 1, 2, 3, and 4.

3-6 p.m.: Hamburgers, chips and soft drinks will be sold.

3:30-6 p.m.: Enjoy "Door to Door Trick or Treating" in bldgs. 1, 2, 3, and 4.

3:30-11 p.m.: Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers hosts a Haunted House.

4-6 p.m.: Open volleyball at the Sports Center.

Until 6 p.m.: Indian Face Painting, Buffalo Bingo, Gold Rush Fish Pond, and other games and Crafts at CYS.

6:30 p.m.-11 p.m.: All Ages Dance starts at the Three-Star Lounge or Kindergarten through 5th grade may attend Movie Night at the CYS Multi-purpose area. Advance sign-up at CYS: 02 717-9651.

October Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By Kathryn Malinski

In October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed along with the establishment of the first national toll-free hotline.

In October 2003, as President Bush signed a proclamation making October *National Domestic Violence Awareness Month*, he stated that, "a home, a family should be a place of support, should be a peaceful place — not a place of cruelty and brutality." During this month, national, state, and community-based domestic violence prevention and victim service organizations, corporations, health care providers, faith-based groups and other organizations, will highlight activities that mark the observance of this month with public education campaigns, community outreach events, recognition ceremonies and memorial activities.

What is Domestic Violence? Spouse or intimate partner abuse is commonly termed Domestic Violence. It is a pattern of behavior used to establish power and control over another person through fear and intimidation, often including the threat or use of violence. In all cultures, the perpetrators of abuse are most commonly male. It is a crime that annually leaves three to four million women in the United States beaten by their husbands or partners.

Here are the facts: (Source: "Domestic Violence - The Facts" created by Peace at Home, Inc.)

- Approximately 95 percent of the victims of domestic violence are women. However, violence also happens in a small but significant number of cases, by women against men.
- Over 2 million women report being beaten every year.
- Between 1.5 and 3 million children witness domestic violence annually.

Prevention: Prevention occurs with awareness of the problem and education toward understanding how such violence affects women, men and children in our society. The DoD's Family Advocacy Program goal is to reduce and prevent family violence through prevention, education, wellness and treatment. Preventive programs such as anger and stress management, marital enrichment programs and couples communication groups are just a few of the classes offered.

Counseling is available through two sources: Soldier & Family Life Consultants (0479-40-4482 or 065 44-5324), and the USAG-Brussels Chaplain (02 717-9708). All services are confidential. If you are aware of anyone suffering from abuse, you are encouraged to phone the Military Police desk at 02 717-9769. Through education, awareness and community involvement, we can work together to stop Domestic Violence.



USAG Schinnen Tri-Border News

NBC training instills confidence in equipment usage



PHOTO: Chaplain Onerey Neil

Lt. Henry Aguigui, takes a deep breath after taking off his mask in the gas chamber to experience what it feels like without a mask as fellow soldiers look on.

By Sylvia Bowron

Soldiers and mission essential civilian personnel from of U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen met on the Schinnen Sports Field Aug. 11, to ready themselves for mandatory annual nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) training with a visit to the gas chamber.

Staff Sgt. Antonio Mariscal, NBC noncommissioned officer for USAG Schinnen held the training for the garrison's last few military and civilian personnel who needed to meet the annual requirement.

"It was almost the end of the fiscal year and we still had a few people who needed to complete the training," said Mariscal. "We still have a few personnel in-processing and I may have to have one more training session.

"The training helps them to have

confidence in using the equipment in case it's needed in a real life situation in the future," said Mariscal, "even a little experience helps a great deal in an emergency situation."

There were five stations marked with wooden signs. At the first station Mariscal gave a short briefing on the purpose of the training, citing the regulations, explaining the procedure that they will follow and then showing the participants the five areas for each stage of preparation before entering the gas chamber.

Picking up their Mission Oriented Protective Posture (MOPP) gear, the first group walked to the next station where they put on their protective MOPP gear and rubber overshoes, before going to the next station where everyone was required to wear their

masks, and check for leaks.

"I check each one to ensure they all have a tight fit, and no air leaks," said Mariscal. "If there is a problem, we work it out together so they can learn how to use it correctly and gain confidence in their equipment."

Gear on, masks tight, hoods down, they went to the gas chamber in groups of six. Before entering the chamber, Mariscal cautioned everyone that when they were cleared to exit, to walk out facing the wind, and not touch their eyes, mouth, and take deep breaths.

According to Mariscal, the gas chamber is a room that has a controlled concentration of CS (ortochlorobenzylidene-malononitrile) gas, commonly called tear gas. CS is an irritant that specifically irritates the mucus membranes in the ears, eyes, nose, mouth and lungs and causes tearing, coughing and a burning sensation to exposed skin.

Each group entered the foggy gas chamber, walked around the room several times, did jumping jacks and was instructed to remove their masks, put them back on and clear them again before leaving. Some opted to take their mask off as they exited the chamber.

Staff Sgt. Princess Speight, a military policeperson, hadn't been to the gas chamber in a year and opted to remove her mask before coming out. "I like to experience what it feels like to be in a chemical environment so I'll have something to remember should I experience it in an other than training mode," said Speight.

Civilian force protection officer, James McCall, entered the chamber in

clothing that he normally wears to work and his gas mask. "You don't feel it right away," said McCall, "I didn't feel it until I left the chamber and removed my mask."

Capt. Jonathan Beck, director of human resources removed his masks before coming out of the gas chamber. With red, teary eyes, and a slightly runny nose Beck said, "I did it because with the mask off, you realize how vulnerable you are to NBC agents. Taking the mask off gives you confidence in your equipment.

"The annual requirement may not be a pleasant experience, but serves a purpose," said Mariscal. "Repeated training instills confidence in the Soldier's and civilian's ability to react quickly and safely when there is a situation and someone hollers, Gas, Gas, Gas."



PHOTO: Sylvia Bowron

Staff Sgt. David Clark, left, and Chaplain Onerey Neal get prepared for the gas chamber.

CFC - Making a world of difference

The Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas (CFC-O), part of the largest workplace giving campaign in the world, has announced the campaign will run from Oct. 3 through Dec. 2, in the European theater.

During the campaign, contributors may designate their donation to a variety of deserving U.S.-based charities through the CFC-O. "In 2004, United States service members and Department of Defense civilians serving overseas raised nearly \$15 million for people in need in overseas military communities, our nation and our world," said Renée Acosta, president and chief executive officer of the campaign management organization for the CFC-O. "This year, we are confident that the strong tradition of giving among federal employees will continue to improve quality of life for all."

The CFC was created in the early 1960s in order to offer federal employees an efficient and effective way to give to their charity or charities of choice. The convenience of payroll deduction, the choice of over

1,700 participating charities and the confidence of a well run, regulated program all have contributed to the success of the CFC.

The Office of Personnel Management has established a procedure to allow CFC donors to make cash or check donations to aid in the relief efforts on the Gulf Coast following the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina.

If you would like to donate, or need additional information, go to the CFC website at www.cfcoverseas.org. The points of contact for the Schinnen community are 1st Sgt. Jose Cruz and Capt. Jonathan Beck. They can be reached at 0031-46-443-7226/7305. The CFC truly is the way to 'Make a World of Difference.'



PCS Moves Reporting Loss/Damage

Upon delivery of your personal property, note obvious loss or damage on DD Form 1840 ("pink or orange form"). Be sure to list inventory number, name of the item, type of damage, and approximate cost, and estimate the total amount of your loss/damage in block 14c. You and the carrier will sign and date the DD Form 1840, and the carrier will leave three copies with you.

For all types of moves you have 70 calendar days from the date of delivery to list additional loss/damage on the back of DD Form 1840 (DD Form 1840R) and present it to the Claims Office.

When you turn in the DD Form 1840, claims personnel will give you the appropriate instruction packet and forms for filing your claim. You have two years from the delivery date to file your claim.

The Army claims system was established to reimburse claimants for losses suffered incident to service. Our claims office exists to assist claimants and pay valid claims. Please contact us at DSN 364-6211 or Comm. 0031 (0)45 563-6211 if you have any questions.

USAG Schinnen Tri-Border News

Tri-border community assists Katrina victims

By Sylvia Bowron

An eighth-grade student at the Maastricht International School, Colleen Hagerty, and her classmates of Form 3A, held a bake sale Sept. 13, at the school with proceeds being donated to the American Red Cross to aid in the relief of Katrina victims.

Hagerty, 13, thought of the idea while watching the relief efforts taking place in the wake of Katrina for the victims left behind.

"I remember watching the effects of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist's attacks, but couldn't do anything to help because I was too young," said Hagerty. "That's when I thought about having a bake sale to raise money for the victims of Katrina."

Hagerty discussed the idea with 14 other classmates from several foreign countries such as Poland, Czechoslovakia, Germany, the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States, The Netherlands and a new student from Japan, who doesn't speak English yet.

"They thought it was a great idea," said Hagerty. "We had many different kinds of baked goods but the best sellers were chocolate chip cookies and cupcakes," she added.



"I was really surprised that she thought of this," said Mary Hagerty, Colleen's mother. "It is a great idea and her dad I supported her with this project."

Hagerty and her classmates collected 190 euros for Katrina victim relief and had a good time while raising the money.

Other efforts were held throughout the tri-border community to aid Katrina victims to include a band concert Sept. 18 at AFNORTH International School, Brunssum with donations being accepted for the American Red Cross.

Members at Joint Forces Command, Brunssum, collected clothing, shoes, quilts, comforters and even some toys for the survivors Katrina many of who escaped with only the clothes on their back.

"The response was amazing," said Capt. Ernest Tornabell, AFNORTH Battalion, operations officer. "Once people heard what we were doing, clothing, bedding, and all kinds of things kept coming in. This was an international undertaking."

"FedEx has agreed to help us get the donations back to the states," said Tornabell, "and we are waiting for final coordination."

If you want to contribute to aid victims of Katrina, you can do so through the Combined Federal Campaign, which officially began Oct. 3. Funds can be contributed to CFC or through your favorite CFC charity.

For more information on CFC call DSN 360-7226 or DSN 360-7305 or check out the CFC web page at www.opm.gov/cfc.



PHOTOS: Sylvia Bowron



PHOTO: CWO3 Sean McBroom

Left, Robbie Back gives a customer his change while others wait their turn. Top, a student watches as his selections are placed on a plate and Colleen Hagerty, standing, gets his change ready. Above, Capt. Ernest Tornabell and his wife Sharleen fold and box item donated by members of Joint Forces Command Brunssum for victims of Hurricane Katrina

Batman makes a special visit to the Tri-border



PHOTOS: Ed Carter

Master Sgt. Tammy Cope from Geilenkirchen services, Terence Dodson and Ed Carter from U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen, activated the Bat-Signal to lure Batman to Geilenkirchen, AFNORTH Child Development Center and the School Aged Services Program area Aug. 17. Batman visited with all the children and they each shared their thoughts with the 'Caped Crusader'.



Far left, Zanker Huk, left, and Austin Sullivan, toddlers at USAG Schinnen Child Development Center get to experience finger painting with the 'Caped Crusader'.

Middle, Justin Vanho talks to Batman one-on-one and exchanges ideas.

Below, Leslie Francis, 8, shows Batman his best moves while arm wrestling with the super hero.





USAG Schinnen Tri-Border News

USAG Schinnen Local Calendar

USAG Schinnen to host community-wide picnic

The 254th Base Support Battalion transitions to U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen Oct. 1, 2005 and will host a ceremony and community – wide picnic Oct. 14, beginning at 11:00 a.m. to mark this historic occasion.

Combined Federal Campaign

The overseas Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) for FY 2005/2006 has begun and runs through Dec. 15. Donors may designate a charity or charities to receive their money by filling out a pledge card. Donations can be in cash, check or by payroll deduction. CFC officials said that on average, one in four federal employees or their dependents will benefit from the campaign charities this year.

Many of the national organizations currently involved in the relief efforts are also CFC charities. In response to inquiries by Federal employees and agencies for ways to help immediately with Hurricane Katrina disaster relief efforts through CFC, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has a downloadable CFC pledge card. For your convenience, a list of the CFC participating charities identified by FEMA as involved in disaster relief efforts have been provided in addition to the complete list of national CFC participating charities.

For information on CFC call DSN 360-7305 or check the CFC web site www.opm.gov/cfc.

Trunk or Treat spots going quickly

It's time to get ready for Trunk or Treat festivities. Stop by Army Community Services and

fill out the registration form for your vehicle or table spot. They are going fast. You will be assigned a spot once all the registration forms have come in.

With out you, it won't be a success. Call DSN 360-7451 or 0031 (0)46 443-7451 or 7500 for more information or registration.

Park and Sell Flea Market

The last Park and Sell Flea Market of the year will be held Oct. 8, at the Dental Clinic parking lot on the Geilenkirchen NATO Base from 10 a.m. to noon. The market is open to all NATO ID cardholders.

There is a \$5 non-refundable fee for sellers. To reserve a space stop by Bldg. 104, Room 4, or simply show up. For details, call 0049 (0)24 5163-2258

MWR Trips and Tours

Express trip to Prague – Oct. 28-30, \$109. Experience the romantic charm of the city's Old Town. Register with full payment by Oct. 21.

Holiday Shopping in Paris – Nov. 26. \$49. Enjoy last minute Christmas shopping in Paris.

Cologne Christmas Market – Dec. 10. \$27.50. Listen to Christmas music while shopping in Cologne for beautiful handcrafts, Christmas tree decorations, delicious treats and more.

Paris, Valentine Weekend – Feb. 10-12, 2006. \$199 per person (double occupancy), single room supplement \$90. Includes 2 nights in 3 star hotel in the center, breakfast and an optional city bus tour. Register with full payment by Dec. 31.

For information on these trips call DSN 360-7561 or comm. 0031 (0)46 443-7561.

Child care providers needed

U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen Child and Youth Services is looking for family child care providers. Requirements are that you love to work with children and live in government leased housing. This is an

opportunity to develop your skills in child development, make good money, and work at home.

Training will be provided and a lending toys and books library is available to all family childcare providers.

Stop by the Child and Youth Services office in the Treebeek Education Center for full details or call 0031 (0)45 563-6221 or 6019.

CYS part-time position open

US Army Garrison Schinnen Child & Youth Services in Brunssum, the Netherlands has part-time positions available to work with children from infants through school age. Minimum salary is \$9.25 an hour. CYS offers free training and salary increases based on training and experience.

For information call the CDC at DSN 364-2575 or Comm. 0031 (0)45 526-2575.

Hearts Apart

The Hearts Apart program is for spouses and children of Tri-Border military members who deploy or go TDY. The next meeting is Oct. 5, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Gielenkirchen Family Support Center.

This month's theme is Halloween Mouse Pads, so bring pictures of loved one's or let us take your picture so that we can create something to help you stay connected.

Call (0049) 245 163-3791 to sign up.

AAFES Schinnen to hold bazaar

AAFES will hold a bazaar Oct. 15 from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. and Oct. 16 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Join them and have lots of fun and see unique vendors with holiday gifts.



JFC Alliance Theater

Oct. 7, 7:30 p.m. *Bewitched*. Starring Nicole Kidman, Will Ferrell. Rated PG-13, 90 min. Hot-shot actor Jack Wyatt, set to star as Darrin in a film version of the 60's TV series "Bewitched", finds his ideal Samantha in unknown actress Isabel, who happens to be a real witch.

Oct. 8, 2 p.m. *Sky High*. Starring Kurt Russell, Michael Angarano. Rated PG, 102 min. When you're the son of the world's most legendary superheroes "The Commander" and "Jetstream" there is only one school for you – Sky High, an elite high school that is entrusted with the responsibility of molding today's power-gifted students into tomorrow's superheroes. The problem is that Will is starting school with no superpowers of his own.

7 p.m. *War of the Worlds*. Starring Tom Cruise, Dakota Fanning. Rated PG-13, 117 min. A contemporary retelling of H.G. Wells' seminal classic. The sci-fi adventure thriller reveals the extraordinary battle for the future of humankind through the eyes of one American family struggling to survive.

Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m. *Hustle & Flow*. Star-

ring Terrence Dashon Howard, DJ Qualls. Rated R, 119 min. Though DJay, a streetwise Memphis pimp, has always had a way with words, that gift has long been misused; this philosopher-hustler lives a dead-end life at the fringes of society.

Oct. 15, 4 p.m. *Must Love Dogs*. Starring Diane Lane, John Cusack. Rated PG-13, 98 min. Sarah, a divorced preschool teacher who has sworn off dating after a bad breakup, finds her family pushing her back into the dating world. Her sister places a personal ad for her, declaring that anyone answering "must love dogs", despite the fact that Sarah doesn't own a dog herself.

7 p.m. *Wedding Crashers*. Starring Owen Wilson, Vince Vaughn. Rated R, 119 min. Vaughn and Wilson star as a pair of divorce mediators who spend their weekends crashing weddings in search for Ms. Right...for a night. But when one of them falls for the engaged daughter of an influential and eccentric politician at the social event of the year, they get roped into spending a weekend at the family's estate and

quickly find themselves in over their heads.

Oct. 16, 1 p.m. *Dukes of Hazzard*. Starring Seann William Scott, Jessica Simpson. Rated PG-13, 105 min. Bo and Luke Duke, who with the help of their eye-catching cousin Daisy try and save

the family farm from being destroyed by Hazzard County's corrupt commissioner Boss Hogg. Their efforts constantly find the "Duke Boys" eluding authorities in 'The General Lee', their famed 1969 orange Dodge Charger that keeps them one step ahead of the law.

Leisure Activities ~ by Rita Hoefnagels

Oct. 7-12: *Large Fun Fair* at Vrijthof in Maastricht (NL).

Oct. 8: *Tattoo* at Frisian Expo Center in Leeuwarden (NL). Only top show bands participate in this event which is known as the largest in The Netherlands. Information: www.taptoeleeuwarden.nl. Entry: 10 to 12 Euro.

Oct. 8-9: *Rock around the jukebox* at Autotron in Rosmalen (NL) where one will find jukeboxes in all shapes and sizes, cars from the fifties, pinball machines, refrigerators, advertising signs, radios, televisions, and more. Information: 0031 (0)73 523-3300.

Thru Oct. 9: *Ski-Happy Inn* at Ahoy in Rotterdam (NL). A winter sports holiday fair where several countries present their new products. Information: 0031 (0)10 293-3300.

Oct. 13-16: *Living & Lifestyle Fair of the North* at Martiniplaza in

Groningen (NL) with art, antiques, kitchens, bathrooms, decorations, exclusive clothes and more. Information: 0031 (0)35 623-9695. Entry: Euro 10.

International Jazz Festival at different locations in Maastricht (NL). Tickets thru the Tourist Office (VVV), call 0031 (0)43 328-0878, or Theater aan het Vrijthof, call 31 (0)43-3505555.

Oct. 16: *ING Amsterdam (NL) Marathon* consists of an open marathon, the half marathon (21.98 km) for joggers, and the mini marathon (4.2 km). Information: info@ingamsterdammarathon.nl or 0031 (0)2 663-0781.

Oct. 16-23: *National Model Making Fair* at Militaire Luchtvaart Museum in Soesterberg (NL). Information about making and operating model airplanes, ships, rockets and more. No entrance fee. Information call 31 (0)34 635-6000 or www.militaireluchtvaartmuseum.nl